

**Division of Commercial Fisheries**  
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## **Advisory Announcement**

*For Immediate Release:*

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### **Closure of the South Alaska Peninsula Area Parallel Pacific Cod Jig Gear Season and Opening of the State-Waters Pacific Cod Jig Gear Season**

#### **Emergency Order 4-GF-09-21**

The South Alaska Peninsula Area parallel Pacific cod jig gear season will close, and the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod jig gear season will immediately open at 12:00 noon March 15, 2021. By regulation, if the Western Gulf of Alaska (WGOA) federal/parallel A season for jig gear has not closed by March 15, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) may close the parallel (0–3 nmi) WGOA jig gear season in the South Alaska Peninsula Area and open the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters jig gear season to facilitate harvest of the state-waters Pacific cod guideline harvest level (GHL). The 2021 South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod GHL allocation for jig gear vessels is 792,000 pounds.

Vessels participating in the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters Pacific cod season may not exceed 58 feet in overall length. Vessel operators must obtain a miscellaneous finfish interim-use permit card for jig gear from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission and an exclusive area vessel registration from ADF&G prior to participating in the state-waters season.

While the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters (0–3 nmi) jig gear season and the federal (3–200 nmi) WGOA jig gear seasons are open concurrently:

- A vessel may not participate in the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters jig gear season and the WGOA federal jig gear season at the same time.
- A vessel's registration for the South Alaska Peninsula Area state-waters season must be invalidated before that vessel may participate in any other Pacific cod season.
- All Pacific cod must be delivered before a vessel may validate or invalidate a state-waters vessel registration.
- A state-waters vessel registration may be validated or invalidated by contacting ADF&G in Kodiak during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday).

For additional information on federal Pacific cod jig gear fisheries, contact the National Marine Fisheries Service in Juneau at (907) 586-7202. For additional information on state-waters Pacific cod jig gear fisheries, contact ADF&G in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.

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***COVID-19***

Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/>

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